

**Fremont Conservation Commission**  
**11-05-07 Minutes**



**Fremont Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes of November 5, 2007**  
**Approved December 3, 2007**

Present: Chairman Jack Karcz, Members Bill Knee and Tina Sturdivant, Alternate Pat deBeer and Recording Secretary Meredith Bolduc.

From 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm the Members attended the “Desert Session” that was held by the NATURAL RESOURCES OUTREACH COALITION (NROC), which included a short power point presentation by Amanda Stone to formally wrap-up the completed Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) project for Fremont which was implemented by NROC.

At 7:30 pm Chrm. Karcz opened the meeting and appointed Alt. deBeer as a voting member for this meeting.

**MINUTES**

Alt. deBeer made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2007 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mbr. Sturdivant with unanimous favorable vote except for Mbr. Knee who abstained as he was not present at that meeting.  
Mr. Knee’s name was removed from the list of members present at that meeting.

Alt. deBeer made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2007 non-public meeting as written except for Mbr. Knee who abstained as he was not present at that meeting.  
The motion was seconded by Mbr. Sturdivant with unanimous favorable vote.

Alt. deBeer made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 22, 2007 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mbr. Sturdivant with unanimous favorable vote except for Mbr. Knee who abstained as he was not present at that meeting.

**PRIME WETLANDS STUDY**

Chrm. Karcz reported that the Commission received an October 15, 2007 invoice # 4715 for Phase 2C in the amount of \$1,800.00 from West Environmental, Inc. The invoice breakdown was described as:

Prime Wetland Mapping performed on 10-1 & 10-2-07	\$880.00
Prime Wetland Mapping performed on 10-3 & 10-4-07	960.00
Final report preparation and recommendations	160.00
Final revisions to report, travel	235.00
Travel to copy center to insert photos into report	80.00
Prepare for and attend Planning Board meeting on 10-10-07	320.00
Copying expense	453.50
Mapping expense	40.00

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Mileage charge	46.20
Adjustment to stay within budget	-1,274.70

Mbr. Sturdivant made the motion that the invoice be paid from the Current Use Fund.

Motion seconded by Mbr. Knee with unanimous favorable vote.

Town Treasurer Kimberly Dunbar will be so notified.

Chrm. Karcz reminded everyone that at the October 22, 2007 meeting it was agreed to:

1. Ask Mark West to provide a map similar to the one he provided at the Planning Board meeting showing the 26 prime wetland candidates for the public hearing scheduled for November 28, 2007.

*Answer: (from Mark West) RPC is already doing that and there will be a charge of \$ 100.*

2. Talk to RPC to see if they can digitize all the wetlands studied, and if so, what the timeframe and cost would be.

*Answer: (from Rob Pruyne) The timeframe would be late December or early January. Cost is \$50 per hour – he will get back to me with how many hours.*

3. Find out what Don Dollard, who prepares the Fremont tax maps, would charge to update the Town tax maps to include the newly designated Prime Wetlands after they have been voted on at the Town meeting in March.

*Answer (from Mark West) This is what Don Dollard will do for \$1,800.*

4. Find out if Don Dollard could use the digitized data created by RPC to update the Town maps.

Mrs. Bolduc reported that she has contacted Mr. West and Rob Pruyne at RPC who related the following pertaining to the questions above:

*Answer: (from Mark West) The data is not created by RPC, it is created by Mark West. And Don Dollard is willing to digitize the new wetland boundaries from the West study.*

There was a conversation relative to the importance of having all the wetlands that Mr. West studied digitized so that the information can be used by the Town and/or land use agencies as necessary. It was noted that once the information is digitized it can also be incorporated on the NRI maps. Chrm. Karcz stated that he is planning to meet with Rob Pruyne and possibly David West of RPC to discuss digitizing all of the wetlands and to possibly clear up some confusion of whether the information can be transferred to Mr. Dollard and used by the Town. It was noted that the Prime Wetland Study Public Hearing has been scheduled by the Planning Board for 7:00 pm on November 28, 2007 at the Fremont Public Library with a second Public Hearing, if necessary on December 19, 2008.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES OUTREACH COALITION (NROC)/ NRI

Mrs. Bolduc reported that Theresa Walker has submitted a replacement CD of the NRI text, minus the maps which are not yet ready. She stated that there are several missing, or outdated, items which can be updated at the Land Use Office now that there is a workable document. Alt. deBeer agreed to check the disk for inclusion of the revised Oak Ridge section and Glen Oakes histories that she worked on.

#### TOWN FOREST/OAK RIDGE/LOOP TRAIL

Chrm. Karcz reported that he put up an ordinance sign in the area of the parking lot of the loop trail.

ERLAC

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Mbr. Sturdivant reported the following:

#### Geosyntec Report/Watershed Restoration Plan Update

Copies of The Exeter River Watershed Vulnerability Analysis drafted by Geosyntec for NHDES were distributed to the Members. Geosyntec Consultants was contracted by the NH DES to assess the vulnerability of the Exeter River watershed and its subwatersheds for water quality impacts. Mbr. Sturdivant called the Members attention to table 15 on page 18 of the document. This was a "Cumulative Subwatershed Vulnerability Ranking" table that showed Dudley Brook/Bloody Brook, Exeter River-lower and Exeter River- Middle as the top 3 most vulnerable watersheds. Mbr. Sturdivant reported that Geosyntec looked at 10 different data layers including impervious cover, forest and wetland assessments, protected and conservation land assessments, stream buffer analysis, conservation land focus areas, water demand, wellhead protection areas, barriers to fish passage, high intensity land uses, and population increase assessment to come up with the most vulnerable subwatersheds. Mbr. Sturdivant reported that ERLAC voted to recommend to DES and Geosyntec that Dudley Brook/Bloody Brook, Fordaway Brook and Exeter River Upper as the 3 most vulnerable subwatersheds. She stated that the reason for this analysis is that DES is going to work with Geosyntec to provide funding to restore these most vulnerable watersheds/subwatersheds. She related that the members of the ERLAC towns get to offer input relative to those 3 watersheds and that she has recommended Boggs Bridge, the Chester end of Whittier Drive, and an area by Taylor Lane and Hooke Road where there are some area flooding issues. She noted that Fremont is impacted in a very small way. It was noted that Spruce Swamp is its own subwatershed.

Mbr. Sturdivant related that Theresa Walker is planning to meet with the town to go over the water restoration plan and explain all of the elements required by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the subwatershed plans.

Mbr. Sturdivant reported that there will be a bus tour of the Exeter River Watershed on November 14, 2007.

#### **GLEN OAKES**

The Open Space Committee Members are conducting monitoring visits to the Glen Oakes Town Forest area to be sure everything is alright with the trails, signs, wildlife and the property in general, then issuing a report to the other members on what they found. Chrm. Karcz reported that he recently visited the area and has submitted a report to the Open Space Committee that nothing was out of place.

Chrm. Karcz reported that Eagle Scout Mark Prescott has contacted the Selectmen to inform them that he has decided on information boards for the Glen Oakes Town Forest as an Eagle Scout project and he had some questions relative to parking in or around the cul-de-sac and if he would need to clear a small area on the side for parking.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT**

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Chrm. Karcz reported that the Commission received the Conservation account balances as of October 11, 2007. The Current Use Fund account reflected payments to West Environmental and interest earned was reflected in all accounts.

**ROBERT AND MICHAEL DUDLEY**

**MAP 1 LOT 048-7**

Chrm. Karcz stepped down from the Commission for this issue as he is an abutter to the subject property.

The Commission Members received an October 15, 2007 request for referral to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) from Michael Dudley. The Members also received a comment sheet from the ZBA for Robert and Michael Dudley for a Special Exception to Fremont Zoning Article IX Section H of the Fremont Zoning Ordinance to allow grading and leveling of their property closer than 100' to a wetland.

After some discussion Mbr. Knee wrote the following to submit as the Conservation Commissions comments, with the general agreement of the Members:

“It is the opinion of the Conservation Commission that the request be denied. Point one: The owner knowingly placed the foundation of the house in its present position. Point two: The purpose of the Town Ordinance is to provide an effective buffer that will be able to adequately protect the adjacent wetland from an alteration in its natural land. Increasing the runoff toward the wetland with excess nitrates, phosphates and potassium could alter the current functionality of the wetland to provide for wildlife and accelerate its eutrofication.”

There was a discussion relative to the referral request. Mrs. Bolduc explained that as per Zoning Article IX Section H part of what the applicant must seek to obtain are referrals from the Planning Board for site plan review, the Conservation Commission, the Health Officer and Building Inspector prior to the public hearing. If thirty (30) days have elapsed following the referral requests, then they are no longer necessary. After more discussion the Members agreed to issue the letter of referral with the same concerns expressed in the comment sheet.

### **INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no incoming correspondence.

Alt. deBeer made the motion to adjourn at 9:50 pm.

Motion seconded by Mbr. Sturdivant with unanimous favorable vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bolduc